National Nuclear Security Administration
U.S. Department of Energy **www.nnsa.doe.gov**

Fact Sheet

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NNSA Working To Prevent Nuclear Terrorism

"The greatest threat before humanity today is the possibility of a secret and sudden attack with chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear weapons." – President George W. Bush, February 11, 2004

The Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), which has unique expertise in nuclear weapons and nuclear material, plays a key role in the U.S. government's comprehensive effort to combat terrorism. Since the 9/11 terrorist attacks, NNSA has doubled spending on nuclear nonproliferation programs. In its fight against nuclear terrorism, NNSA has successfully completed the following:

Secured Nuclear Material and Warheads

- Returned 228 kilograms (over 500 lbs) of Soviet-origin nuclear material from vulnerable sites around the world.
- Returned 3,300 kilograms (7,260 lbs) of U.S.-origin nuclear material.
- Converted 43 research reactors worldwide from operating on highly enriched uranium to run on low enriched uranium.
- Trained over 500 foreign officials every year since the 9/11 terrorist attacks on how to physically protect nuclear material and facilities.
- Monitored the conversion of 11,038 nuclear weapons worth of Russian highly enriched uranium.
- Disposed of approximately 90 metric tons (almost 200,000 lbs) of surplus U.S. highly enriched uranium.
- Secured over 80 percent of the Russian nuclear weapons material storage sites of concern, including over 170 buildings.
- Improved security at all 39 Russian Navy and 14 Russian Strategic Rocket Forces sites containing hundreds of warheads.

Secured "Dirty Bomb" Material

- Recovered over 13,000 radioactive sources in the United States.
- Recovered about three million curies worth of radiological sources from 112 sites in Russia.
- Upgraded the physical security at 486 facilities around the world that contained vulnerable, high-risk radioactive material, and currently upgrading an additional 209 locations in 38 countries.

Prevented Nuclear Smuggling and Transfer of Nuclear Expertise

- Refocused long-term research efforts to develop improved technologies to detect weapons of mass destruction and proliferation around the world.
- Trained over 4,500 U.S. customs and border officials and held over 180 workshops for foreign customs and border officials on weapons of mass destruction commodity recognition and nonproliferation principles since the 9/11 terrorist attacks.
- Installed radiation detection equipment at international seaports in six countries with an additional 14 countries at various stages of implementation.
- Equipped a total of 88 sites with radiation detection equipment at Russian borders, airports and ports.
- Created nearly 4,400 jobs and engaged at least 12,000 former weapons of mass destruction scientists and engineers at 180 institutes across the former Soviet Union.

Emergency Response

- NNSA has robust emergency capabilities with some of the world's top professional scientists, engineers, pilots, medical personnel, technicians and other leading nuclear experts.
- Using extremely sophisticated laboratories and equipment, NNSA's response personnel are ready to respond to and resolve nuclear and radiological terrorist incidents, including supporting other government agencies, and deploying search, analysis and medical teams.
- In order to maintain its elite response standards, NNSA participated in approximately 45 emergency planning operations in 2005.
- NNSA supported local law enforcement by mobilizing resources for approximately 40 high profile special events around the country in 2005.

Established by Congress in 2000, NNSA is a semi-autonomous agency within the U.S. Department of Energy responsible for enhancing national security through the military application of nuclear science. NNSA maintains and enhances the safety, security, reliability and performance of the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile without nuclear testing; works to reduce global danger from weapons of mass destruction; provides the U.S. Navy with safe and effective nuclear propulsion; and responds to nuclear and radiological emergencies in the U.S. and abroad. Visit www.nnsa.doe.gov for more information.

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